# MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

## 14 JUNE 1985

### Hijacking

An American airliner hijacked enroute from Athens to Rome 14 June landed at Beirut Airport for refueling. According to Voice of Lebanon radio reports, an unidentified telephone caller told the radio station the three hijackers belonged to the Abu 'Arab group of the Al-Husayn Suicide Brigades; once the plane landed, the hijackers threatened to kill passengers if anyone other than the fuel tanker approached the plane. One of the hijackers demanded that all prisoners in Israeli jails be released and transported to Sidon by the International Red Cross, then condemned "American action in the Arab world," and finally attacked the Egyptian, Iraqi, and Jordanian regimes and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon announced. The hijackers released 25 women and children passengers after refueling, KUNA disclosed. The plane then left Beirut.

### Lebanon

UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart discussed UNIFIL's role in Lebanon in his talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Damascus radio stated. Urquhart then went to Israel for talks in which Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told him "no change will occur in UNIFIL's deployment in southern Lebanon" since the army of southern Lebanon (ASL) will continue to control the security strip, Jerusalem radio revealed. Urquhart observed that there were "promising new beginnings" on the Finnish hostage situation following his talks with Rabin. The IDF spokesman, meanwhile, announced that the IDF shot down a Syrian drone near the Israeli-Lebanese border, the radio noted.

Lebanese infighting continued in Beirut areas, where according to the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio, Phalangist and Nationalist forces had "violent" clashes. The PLO official spokesman, in an announcement broadcast by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio, decried the Amal and Lebanese Army forces evacuation of Palestinians from Beirut as a "scheme" designed to confine the refugees in the mountain area to ensure "the security of the Zionist enemy" and protect its borders and existence. In other reports, the radio on 12 June attacked "a certain Arab regime" for its "continuing oppressive measures" against Palestinian camp residents and described the killing of over 60 people in the Al-Yarmuk camp outside Damascus as "revenge campaigns" for opposition to the Lebanese camp situation. An INA report from 5 June citing a Palestinian source in Paris indicated that Syrian security and military intelligence were besieging the Al-Yarmuk camp coincidental with the Amal movement attacks on the Beirut camps. According to DFLP sources cited by Radio Monte Carlo, Syrian authorities have prevented DFLP and officials from leaving Syria in measures which also affect "other Palestinian factions."

### Iran-Iraq

Tehran radio announced that it had designated a separate frequency to broadcast only air raid sirens. The Iranian communique, carried by the radio, stated that Tehran suffered 35 casualties from 12 June raids, while Bakhtaran had 45. IRNA noted a total of 70 casualties from raids on Bakhtaran and its provincial villages. In Iranian counterattacks, the agency reported that western front artillery battles at Bakhtaran and Ilan caused 32 Iraqi deaths, and claimed "heavy" enemy casualties from the 12 June Fakkeh Axis operation when Iran "halted all Iraqi reinforcements" by shelling its supply routes.

### Sudan

A Nile steamer was "completely destroyed" in a "successful ambush" by Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) forces, the clandestine SPLA radio announced on 13 June. The radio also carried a disclosure by the official SPLA High Command spokesman that the SPLA has begun a "new phase" by extending operations to the northern part of Sudan in "war zone No 2." Meanwhile, the Transitional Military Council dismissed the minister of public service and labor for possessing drugs, SUNA revealed.

### DRA-Pakistan

The Pakistani Foreign Ministry rejected the 6 June DRA protest which alleged "heavy firing" from Pakistan toward Barikowt in Konar Province, claiming the DRA was blaming Pakistan for "events that have been occurring in Afghanistan," Karachi radio stated 12 June. .

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

**South Asia**

*Vol VIII No 115* *14 June 1985*

**MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW** ..... i

**AFGHANISTAN**

Defense Ministry Announces Course Openings ..... C 1
Rebel Group, Weapons Seized in Lalander Region ..... C 1
BAKHTAR on 'Bandit Gathering' Held in Angola ..... C 1
Voice of Islamic Revolution on Mujahidin Actions ..... C 1

**INDIA**

Delhi on Gandhi Address to U.S. Congress, Press ..... E 1
Jayewardene's Brother To Head Visiting Delegation ..... E 1

**PAKISTAN**

President Leaves for Saudi Arabia 13 Jun ..... F 1
Grenade Damages Austrian Trade Commissioner's Office *[AFP]* ..... F 1
PAKISTAN TIMES on Indo-Pakistan-U.S. Relations *[4 Jun]* ..... F 1
BRIEFS: Drugs Seized Jan-Apr ..... F 2
IDA Loan

**OTHER COUNTRIES**

**BANGLADESH**

President on Lifting Ban on Political Activities *[AFP]* ..... G 1
Delhi Cites Ershad ..... G 1

**SRI LANKA**

Delhi Reports 20 Killed in Trincomalee Clashes ..... G 1
Air Force Helicopter Fires on Suspected Tamils *[AFP]* ..... G 1

**IRAN**

President Khamene'i Speaks on Jerusalem Day ..... I 1
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Rocket Unit on War ..... I 1
Foreign Ministry Official Visits YAR ..... I 1
8 Iraqis Arrive in Country, Request Asylum ..... I 2
Kuwait Expells 81 Iranian Citizens ..... I 2
Tehran Establishes Special Air Raid Frequency ..... I 2
War Information Head on Role of Media, Information ..... I 2
Reportage, Comment on Iraqi Attacks, Retaliation ..... I 3
2 Die in Iraqi Raids ..... I 3
Iraqi Installations Attacked ..... I 3
Headquarters on 'Fakkeh Axis' Gains ..... I 3
Further Details ..... I 3
Two Killed in Bakhtaran ..... I 3
Joint Staff Issues Communique ..... I 3
70 Killed in Bakhtaran Bombardment ..... I 4
Iraq Violates Dezful Air Space ..... I 4
Iraqi Plane Over Tehran ..... I 4
38 killed, 175 Hurt in Cities ..... I 4

### Defense Ministry Announces Course Openings

*LD122212 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Jun 85*

[Text] Here is an announcement by the Education and Training Department of the DRA Ministry of Defense:

The DRA Ministry of Defense's Education and Training Department will accept those graduates of the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades or above who are between 18 and 24 years of age, for officers' border officers, 29 regiment and detection courses; and graduates of 6th 7th and 8th grades and pupils of 9th grade who are between 18 and 24 years of age for NCO, nursing, border logistics, communications and technical courses.

Those pupils willing to be admitted to the above courses should come to the Education and Training Department of the Ministry of Defense, located in Dar-ol Aman, bringing their education documents and citizenship cards with them.

### Rebel Group, Weapons Seized in Lalander Region

*LD131849 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] As a result of successful combat activities carried out recently by the Char 'Asyab training center in Char 'Asyab, Paghman, and Shakerdara districts and in the region of Lalander, a large quantity of weapons and an entire group of rebels, led by Sayd Mohammad, belonging to the Etehad-e Islami band in Chawel Khel region of Karez-e Mer, were seized.

The weapons included various types of ground-to-ground rockets, kalashnikovs, rocket launchers, rifles and ammuntion, machine-gun (?magazines), hunting rifles, rocket shells, assorted mines, hand grenades, mine triggers, loudspeakers, cable for moving and joining mines, rocket transportation equipment, tents and boxes of medicine with Chinese, Italian, and Pakistani markings. The entire rebel group, which hid weapons in basements and hideouts, and which includes also 10 horses used for the transporation of weapons and ammunition, were also seized.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that a meeting was held in the command headquarters today to commend the heroism of the officers, NCOs, and men of Char 'Asyab training center. The meeting was attended by Major General Mohammad Yasin Sadeqi, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and head of the Army's political affairs department, who presented commendation certificates and cash awards to several of the officers, NCOs, and heroic men of this training center. He expressed the satisfaction of the leadership of the Ministry of Defense and of the Army's political affairs department with the work and revolutionary fight of the officers, NCOs, and men of the training center.

### BAKHTAR on 'Bandit Gathering' Held in Angola

*LD140846 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Kabul, June 13, BAKHTAR: A political oberver of BAKHTAR writes: Pretoria racists back Afghan terrorists, early in June representatives of counter-revolutionary organizations from Asia, Africa, and Latin America, Afghan bandits included got together in the south of Africa, in Angolan territory.

Pretoria racists took an active part in this provocative gathering. Bandits fighting against Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and Laos were secretly delivered from South Africa to Angola in a South African airliner which took off near Johannesburg.

The gathering was prepared and paid by the CIA and South African secret services who have long been jointly combatting various national liberation movements in the south of Africa. They guide their mercenaries raids on civilans in Mozambique, Angola and other frontline states in the Middle East. They are conducting jointly with Israel subversive activities against the Arab people of Palestine.

Washington supports Pretoria. Its partner in "strategic engagement" in its attempts to retain the Apartheid system and its aggressive militaristic scheme toward neighbouring countries. Meanwhile, the racist regime is continuing its unlawful occupation of Namibia.

In response to such care South Africa granted its territory for the training of terrorists from UNITA [National Union for Total Independence of Angola] and the so-called Mozambique National Resistance. There they are taught by American, South African, and Israeli instructors and find refuge after committing acts of terrorism against neighbouring countries.

Now Pretoria racists have turned to Afghanistan. The racist regime condemned by the entire civilized world are backing Afghan bandits. Such is the true face of the enemies of the Afghan revolution, who call themselves "fighters for freedom and democracy".

With the White House's blessing, the CIA is seeking to set up under its aegis an alliance between counter-revolutionary terrorists and mercenaries and those who profess the inhuman philosophy of racism. Lehrman, an American millionaire and President Reagan's friend, played first fiddle during the gathering in the Angolan jungle. There he read out the U.S. President's message which stressed the community of the goals pursued by Washington and counter-revolutionaries of all hues.

### Voice of Islamic Revolution on Mujahidin Actions

*GF132050 (Clandestine) Voice of the Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1715 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] According to reports from Paktia Province, our mujahidin brothers in a coordinated operation attacked the occupying Soviet forces and the Karmal mercenaries, killing seven Soviet soldiers and wounding several others. After these operations the enemy's military aircraft bombed Qal'eh-ye Now and Shar-e Now villages. Three of the innocent and oppressed people of our country were martyred.

Some time ago the occupying Soviet forces attempted to crush the positions of our Muslim mujahidin, but our mujahidin brothers attacked the heretic enemy at (Sekandar Khel) and forced

them to abort their plan of attack. According to another report, the occupying Soviet forces and the Karmal mercenaries attempted to close in on our mujahidin brothers in order to crush them, but they encountered the forces of our Muslim mujahidin and in the ensuing battle the enemy forces were defeated and many of their men killed or wounded. In this operation several tanks of the occupying Soviet forces were destroyed by the rocket fire and mines of our Muslim mujahidin brothers.

Another report says that the Muslim mujahidin, in the course of a battle in Paktia Province, shot down a Soviet helicopter and damaged another. The Karmal forces tried to save the damaged helicopter but came under attack by our mujahidin brothers. As a result, several of them were killed.

### Delhi on Gandhi Address to U.S. Congress, Press

*BK140339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said there is further scope to improve the friendship between India and the United States. Addressing representatives of the Indian ethnic media in Washington last night, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said he has found tremendous response and understanding about India during his meeting with President Reagan and other leaders.

He said there are differences in certain fields but there is also a feeling that we can work together. Replying to a question about buying high technology weapons from the United States, he said there was not much discussion as the conditions offered were not acceptable to India.

He also said there has been no talk on any friendship treaty with the United States.

Referring to Punjab, he said it is for the Akalis to identify what they want to talk about. On Gujarat, the prime minister said that abolition of reservation will not solve the problem. He said the problem has to be looked into in great depth.

Earlier, addressing the U.S. Congress, the prime minister said India is apprehensive about the establishment of military bases in various parts of the world. He said the country is directly affected by the militarization of the Indian Ocean and the inflow of increasingly sophisticated arms into its neighborhood. The All India Radio special correspondent, Manohar Takroo, reports that Mr Gandhi deviated several times from the text of his speech during his 30 minute address. Members repeatedly applauded him and greeted a number of his observations with prolonged cheers.

The Festival of India was formally inaugurated by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in Washington a short while ago.

### Jayewardene's Brother To Head Visiting Delegation

*BK131409 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] A 6-member Sri Lankan team of legal experts will be arriving in New Delhi on Saturday for talks with Indian officials and experts. The team will be headed by Mr Hector Jayewardene, brother of the president of Sri Lanka.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that the Sri Lankan team is visiting the capital at the invitation of the Government of India. They are expected to stay in New Delhi for 4 or 5 days.

It may be recalled that President Jayewardene had talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi early this month on the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. Both leaders have agreed that a political solution to the problem should be worked out.

**President Leaves for Saudi Arabia 13 Jun**
*BK131528 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq left for Saudi Arabia this afternoon. According to an official announcement in Islamabad, Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan will be the acting president during the president's absence from the country. Vice Chief of Army Staff K.M. Arif will be the acting chief martial law administrator during this period.

**Grenade Damages Austrian Trade Commissioner's Office**
*HK140600 Hong Kong AFP in English 0531 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, June 14 (AFP) — A hand grenade was thrown last night into the office of the Austrian trade commissioner, injuring a night watchman and breaking several windows, police said today. Responsibility for the attack was not immediately claimed, and police had no suspects. The trade commissioner was not in the office at the time of the explosion.

**PAKISTAN TIMES on Indo-Pakistan-U.S. Relations**
*GF131246 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 4 Jun 85 p 6*

[Article by Bashir Ahmad: "Indo-Pakistan-American Triangle"]

[Excerpt] The U.S. views the change of Government of India under Mr Rajiv Gandhi as a unique opportunity to wean India away from the USSR and push her closer to Washington, to adopt a greater non-aligned stance. After the assassination of Indira Gandhi both the super-powers have been vying with each other to win India over to their side. The Soviet hold on India's polity is so firm and time-tested that the United States will find it difficult to rip it asunder. The U.S. however, is keen on upgrading relations, ready to help India with technology which Mr Gandhi wishes to acquire in order to build his country fast. He reiterates simultaneously that relations with the Soviet Union will remain cordial and friendly; these will in fact accelerate and grow with the passage of time. Special importance, therefore, attaches to Rajiv Gandhi's visits to the Soviet Union and the U.S.A. Yet another condition imposed by Mr. Gandhi for going along with America is that America "must adjust its relationship with Pakistan".

The U.S. relationship with India will continue to be influenced by the state of Indo-Pak and Indo-Soviet relations. These are interdependent and intertwined in an extremely complex way, internal conditions and public opinion in each country also playing an important part. Indian suspicion of Pakistan is deep-rooted and vice versa; there also exists a strong lobby for an improvement in relations and wide popular aversion in both countries to war.

The Russian incursion into Afghanistan has imported another important factor into the situation, turning Pakistan into a front-line state according to American perception and that of Pakistan also. With the installation of Ronald Reagan as president, American policy has undergone a radical change. Pakistan stood sentinel on the gateway to the oil-rich Gulf and blocked the passage of Russia to the warm waters of the Arabian Sea. Reagan was quick to perceive the strategic importance of Pakistan and a 6-year package aid programme totalling $ 3.2 billion was concluded. Despite the India-Israel lobby America has agreed to supply F-16 aircraft to Pakistan which has now asked for E-2C to forestall sneaky attacks and check intruding planes from Afghanistan. Pakistan's acceptance of aid is not subject to any condition viz., leasing of bases or abandoning its peaceful nuclear programme which is tailored to development needs.

"We seek no advantage, political, military or economic. We have no desire for bases or for expansion of our relations with one of the regional nations at the expense of our relations with another. And we have no intention of upsetting the military balance among the states of the region," Mr. Robert Peck, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state told the House Appropriations Subcommittee. "Our overall programme will enable Pakistan to continue its steady opposition to Soviet aggression in Afghanistan, retain its leadership role in the international community on the Afghan issue.... We believe our assistance also helps to provide the self-confidence necessary for Pakistan to play its part in bringing about better relationship between India and Pakistan which both parties seek."

Pakistan has been assured repeatedly that Washington's strong desire to improve relations with post-Indira India would not in any way affect America's commitment to Pakistan. A secure, stable Pakistan is in U.S. interest. The continued U.S. assistance to Pakistan is in the national security interests of both countries, though the former is concerned by the development of so-called military capabilities in Pakistan's nuclear programme, which jeopardises future U.S. economic and military assistance. Pakistan would face a U.S. threat of aid cut-off the same way as India if Pakistan acquired a nuclear weapons capability, as part of America's even-handedness and yet reflecting American concern about nuclear proliferation in the sub-continent. Pakistan's nuclear plan like Pakistan's arms haunt the Indian prime minister.

A series of high-level visits of U.S. dignitaries to India since Rajiv Gandhi took over, have taken place. Mr. George Shultz attended the funeral of Mrs. Gandhi. Dr. Henry Kissinger visited Delhi as part of his tour of South Asia. U.S. Under-Secretary of State Michael Armacost came to India, followed by the Under-Secretary of Commerce. Soon Mr. Verne Orr of the U.S. Air Force and Mr. Malcolm Baldrige, Commerce secretary, will be visiting Delhi. Dr. Fred Ikle, under-secretary (Defense), who met top Indian leaders left Delhi full of hope and optimism. These visits are indicative of the American interest in extending cooperative relations with India.

There is a renewed sense of appreciation in the U.S. of India's importance in the region and the world. Conscious of the differences between them, the Americans wish to explore these in order to strengthen bilateral relations to the mutual benefit of the two countries. The U.S. has taken due note of the observation of the Indian prime minister that U.S. military relationship with Pakistan is a matter of concern to India.

The Soviet presence in Afghanistan affects both India and

America, and India apprehends that Pakistan may be destabilised as a result of continued Soviet pressure against it. The Americans have accepted the fact that India will continue its close relations with the Soviet Union, as these have served India's national interest, and that it is for India and the Soviet Union to determine the extent of this relationship.

On their part the Americans recognise that the close Indo-Soviet relationship does not exclude the growing of a mutually satisfactory and equally close Indo-U.S. relationship. American sources emphasize that India and the U.S. have a number of mutual interests and these point the way towards an expanded and mutually beneficial bilateral relationship.

The Indians have viewed with satisfaction the U.S. readiness to respond favourably to its needs for defence equipment and high technology. As a result a memorandum of understanding on transfer of high technology has been signed. A major arms supply relationship is in the offing and Pakistan, unlike India, would not protest over it.

Procurement of weapons and defence technology is India's own concern, no business of Pakistan to raise a hue and cry in the matter. The U.S. is assisting Pakistan to acquire a deterrent defence capability to ensure its security and no more.

The challenge posed necessitates tight-rope walking on the part of American leadership. The delicate situation in the context of two mutually hostile and traditionally irreconcilable adversaries calls for extreme shrewdness and diplomatic skill of the highest order, to forge friendly ties with both, prevent them from flying at each other's throat and promote a cooperative relationship so that Communism is countered and contained.

## BRIEFS

**Drugs Seized Jan-Apr** — Interior Minister Mohammad Aslam Khan Khatak told the National Assembly that 2.4 metric tons of heroin and about 56 metric tons of charas was seized during the first 4 months of this year. [Text] [*Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 11 Jun 85 BK*]

**IDA Loan** — The International Development Association, a World Bank subsidiary, has announced a loan of $87 million for Pakistan. Of this amount, $34.5 million will be used for improving irrigation and $52.5 million for primary education facilities in the country. [Text] [*Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 12 Jun 85 BK*]

## BANGLADESH

### President on Lifting Ban on Political Activities

*HK140824 Hong Kong AFP in English 0803 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Dhaka, June 14 (AFP) — Bangladesh President Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad today indicated that his government might allow open political activities some time after this month. Lt. Gen. Ershad left today on a 10-day state visit to South Korea and Japan.

Prior to his departure, he told reporters that no specific dates had been fixed for the revival of political activities. He said the government was giving the matter serious thought and that it might lift the ban some time after this month's 'Id al-Fitr Muslim festival. He also said that political detainees would be released soon.

The military government has banned all political activities since March 1, after opposition activity against scheduled elections had increased. Two alliances of seven and 15 parties were formed in opposition to the government and have been campaigning for the restoration of democracy. Some elections have been postponed in the past few years after the opposition said they would not participate unless the polling was held under a neutral caretaker government.

President Ershad said he would like to have dialogue with the political parties to reach a concensus for restoring democracy in the country. He said he wanted to come to a "great political understanding" with the parties. He also said he expected to expand his cabinet soon but gave no further details.

He said he expected his visit to South Korea and Japan to strengthen Dhaka's relations with those two countries and increase further the trade and commercial cooperation between Bangladesh and the two nations.

### Delhi Cites Ershad

*K140925 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] The Bangladesh president, Lieutenant General Ershad, has said he would consider lifting of the ban on political activities after the 'Id festival. Talking to newsmen at the Dhaka airport before his departure on a 9-day tour to the Democratic Republic of Korea and Japan, he said all political prisoners will be released. Answering questions, General Ershad said the national elections will be held on the basis of a fresh dialogue and understanding with political parties. Our Dhaka correspondent Prabhakar Mishra reports that political activities have been banned in Bangladesh since March this year.

## SRI LANKA

### Delhi Reports 20 Killed in Trincomalee Clashes

*BK131357 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] In Sri Lanka, thousands of people fled their homes in the Trincomalee district following clashes during the last 2 days. According to official sources, more than 11,000 refugees have been sheltered in 16 relief camps. The refugees include Tamils, Sinalese, and Muslims. A source has said 20 people, including 5 security men, were killed in the clashes.

### Air Force Helicopter Fires on Suspected Tamils

*HK140754 Hong Kong AFP in English 0711 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Colombo, June 14 (AFP) — A Sri Lankan Air Force helicopter carrying National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali and Army Commander Nalin Seneviratne reportedly shot at a group of suspected Tamil separatists, it was reported here today.

The helicopter pilot, Captain Sunil Cabraal, reportedly said he spotted the group of suspected separatists yesterday near (Vehivette) in northeastern Seruwawila District. This is where on Tuesday a remote-controlled explosive blew up an armoured car, killing four soldiers and two policemen and severely injuring a number of other servicemen.

Members of a government television team who were on board the helicopter with Mr Athulathmudali and the Army commander said the pilot kept shooting intermittantly for about 15 minutes, circling the fleeing group of suspected separatists. No casualties were reported but local newspapers quoting unnamed government sources said many of the suspected separatists would have died or been injured. However, no one aboard the helicopter said it had been shot at from the ground, nor could anyone, including the journalists, say how the pilot was able to distinguish ordinary civilians from separatists from the air.

Mr Athulathmudali yesterday was visiting the northern and eastern provinces, mainly to persuade Sinhalese fleeing the Trincomalee District in the northeast to return to their homes after Tamil separatists killed several Sinhalese civilians in the previous two days.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east of the country, alleging discrimination at the hands of the Sinhalese majority. After weeks of violence, 11,000 people in eastern Sri Lanka have been left homeless and are being cared for in makeshift refugee camps, a social services official has said.

### President Khamene'i Speaks on Jerusalem Day

*GF140704 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 0612 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Dear listeners. I wish to inform you that our other colleagues at the radio broadcasting center have contacted President Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i. He has sent a message on the occasion of Jerusalem Day and the day of support for the imposed war and the march of millions of the Islamic nation. Let us hear it together:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] I am speaking from the radio station.
[Khamene'i] Yes?

[Correspondent] As you know, today is Jerusalem Day and the ubiquitous Muslim people of our country are out in the streets and are participating in the Jerusalem Day and support of war marches. What are your excellency's opinion and message on this special day, as the chief of the Supreme Defense Council?

[Khamene'i] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In this march the people are showing their determination not to surrender to the pressure of the world oppressors and their agents. This act is a display of the people's resistance against the pressures and coercion which have continued for the past 4 years and which continue. The people say that we have not tired of defending our revolution and independence. We will not tire of doing so. We will thus inflict a heavy blow on those who are lying in wait in the hope of the ennui of the Iranian nation. Of course, in this march, the people will express gratitude by the grace of God and for the blessings of the creator, who has aided them. Hence, Jerusalem Day this year is the occasion for us to announce our public resistance against the world oppressors' pressure and to declare that we are not fatigued despite the pressure of the mercenary agents of world oppression.

We pledge firm resolve to continue the war until the victory of the combatants of Islam. This is a day of gratitude and thanksgiving to God for His blessings and succor, which He has bestowed on the Iranian nation. He has given them the fortitude to bear this grand heavy burden. As for my message, I am one with the Iranian nation in this feeling. In this feeling and resolve I join them and I hope that with the grace of God we can appropriately fulfill our obligations here.

[Correspondent] I thank you Mr Khamene'i. I hope that our able combatants can achieve decisive victory on the battlefronts.
[Khamene'i] God willing.
[Correspondent] Thank you. [End recording]

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Rocket Unit on War

*LD131314 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Members of the rocket unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps last night met Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker. During the meeting, the head of the rocket unit presented a report on its activities. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani noted the particular objectives and inspirations of the Islamic Republic, and said:

[Announcer read] The people who are of this world do not agree with our objectives, except those who are oppressed and who are seeking the other world or who are imbued with divine motives. There may be many nations who might be interested in our way and belief, but they first need time to understand this; in addition, they have no resources. The world's important resources are at the disposal of those who are of this world, and those who are of this world are not with us -- except to the extent that they do not deem us to be a bother to them. For that reason we have to try hard to be independent in matters of principle and to be able to stand on our own feet. In the context of pretending and sloganeering it might be said that it would be immoral in wars to attack civilians and towns or to use arms except in hand-to-hand combat. But who adheres to this?

In Afghanistan, where a superpower is fighting a homeless and oppressed nation, that superpower is using forbidden weapons. In Lebanon we can see no limits to transgressions, and those who are experiencing them are a bunch of empty-handed refugees. When confronted with a powerful adversary they endure forbidden weapons being used against them. When Iraq was confronted by our forces it contravened international conventions: It used chemical weapons, took civilian prisoners, polluted the environment, threatened civil air routes, disrupted shipping lanes, and attacked towns and residential targets. It is openly saying: War is war, and no one avoids this sort of thing, no one refrains from using its weapons in times of war. So in a world like this we cannot afford to neglect the matter of using rockets; this is an unavoidable necessity for a country such as ours with an immense number of enemies.

In another part of his remarks Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: On the matter of attacks on towns and civilian targets, Iraq is suffering far more than we because Basra, a city of 2 million people, a sensitive Iraqi industrial center, is facing a daily barrage of 200 shells — each capable of much destruction — and 18 Iraqi cities can expect shells at any time. Life in those cities is extremely difficult.

Iraq is paying a heavy price in Basra and other cities. But one should examine what it is gaining by accepting such a price. It is relying on reports and support and those things that the domestic counterrevolution is passing on. This is Iraq's road to salvation.

### Foreign Ministry Official Visits YAR

*LD131938 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Our Foreign Ministry's political director for Arab and African countries yesterday arrived in Sanaa and conferred with the officials of North Yemen. This visit is within the framework of a tour of Arab countries continuing efforts by the Islamic Republic of Iran to halt the Beirut clashes. He delivered a message from foreign minister Velayati to the deputy foreign minister of North Yemen, during a meeting held in the absence of the foreign minister of North Yemen. During this meeting a report from three delegations from the Islamic Republic of Iran

and their contacts with the interested parties in Lebanon and the deep concern about the clashes, were conveyed to the official.

According to the Central News Unit report, the deputy foreign minister of North Yemen, responding with high praise for the extensive efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran in this respect, said: Your country severed relations with Israel following the victory of the Islamic Revolution, and supported Palestine, actively participating in repulsing the Zionists after the invasion of Lebanon. We did not expect otherwise from the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

During this meeting, further discussions and exchanges of views were held in connection with regional issues.

### 8 Iraqis Arrive in Country, Request Asylum

*GF140538 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] According to the Central News Unit eight Iraqi citizens who had reached the end of their endurance due to the tyranny of the ruling regime of that country arrived in Bushehr via the maritime frontiers of the Persian Gulf and requested asylum from the Iranian authorities.

### Kuwait Expells 81 Iranian Citizens

*GF140541 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] In continuation of the inimical policy of the Kuwaiti Government against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and on the eve of the celebration of the international Jerusalem Day and support for war, 81 more Iranians residing in Kuwait were expelled in the past few days.

According to the Central News Unit these persons arrived via the maritime frontiers of the Persian Gulf at the port of Bushehr in a few launches. They had been beaten up by Kuwaiti Government officials prior to their expulsion and had spent 2 to 15 days in detention.

### Tehran Establishes Special Air Raid Frequency

*LD131546 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1428 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear citizens of Tehran. Please pay attention to this statement: In addition to the normal frequencies, every night a transmitter will broadcast air raid sirens for Tehran on 100.7 Mhz frequency. This frequency, on the FM wave, will remain on the air between 2100-0900 every night until the following morning.

If interested, our dear fellow citizens can leave their receivers on this frequency. When there are no air raids, nothing will be broadcast on this frequency and it will be silent.

### War Information Head on Role of Media, Information

*LD131243 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Mr Karmal Kharrazi, the supervisor of the War Information Department, took part in a gathering of domestic and foreign reporters. While providing some details about [words indistinct] the Jerusalem Day and the bombing of the cities of our country by the Iraqi regime, he asked the reporters to take part in marching on Jerusalem Day and to prepare reports about these ceremonies.

He said: Tomorrow is international Jerusalem Day and there will be special ceremonies in Iran and other countries. Tomorrow you shall witness the vast presence of the people of Tehran who will be marching toward the university, and will experience the iron will of the Iranian people. Those who are not familiar with our people and the Islamic revolution may find it strange that our people become more determined when the pressure on them is increased. Therefore, what you will see tomorrow is a natural consequence of recent Iraqi actions.

Mr Kharrazi added: No doubt as the result of false information which had been put at the disposal of the Iraqi regime by the hypocrites and big powers, that regime envisioned that by attacking the residential areas of our cities it could weaken the will of the people and could drive them away; but you saw that this theory proved false. Of course, this is not the first time that Iraqi theories have been proven false, because in the early days of the war Iraq also thought that it could speedily bring us to our knees and that we would surrender very soon.

The supervisor of the War Information Department, referring to Iraqi threats, emphasized: Any threat which is carried out tomorrow by the Iraqi regime against the marches on Jerusalem Day will be a clear document of the support of that regime for the regime occupying Jerusalem. On the one hand, we have no doubt that the Iraqi regime fully supports the Camp David treaties and is a supporter of the Israeli regime. However, what is very puzzling at the moment is the strange silence of international organizations concerning enemy attacks on the residential areas of our cities. Although they witness the bombing of innocent civilians and the destruction of residential areas, they do not say a word. We hope that the foreign mass media in Iran will play their proper role and will correctly report the number of people who come on to the streets tomorrow.

Continuing this interview, Mr Kharrazi talked about the reporting of news and information concerning the war and the attacks of the Iraqi regime on cities and said: The reporting of ordinary events of society is different from reporting military events. What is important in the reporting of wars is the views of military experts and officials. Today we are engaged in a psychological war both on the front and in the towns. In the same way that the war on the front has its own rules, psychological wars also have their own rules and regulations. One of the methods which is used in psychological warfare is for reports and information to be released in order to mislead the enemy, so that the enemy cannot alter its operations; and second, it may exert pressure upon the enemy so that the enemy remains unaware of the real results of its operations. Today the Iraqi regime strictly censors the reports

of our attacks on that country and, in the nature of the dictatorial regime ruling over that country, is very successful in this respect. However, the question which should be asked is why foreign news agencies transmit reports with long delays or sometimes even remain silent about some reports.

The supervisor of the War Information Department added: We deliberately do not reveal the places where enemy bombs have exploded so that the enemy may fail to correct its targeting; and this method has been very effective. Iraq is making great efforts to discover the outcome of its operations in Iran. A few days ago the Iraqi regime even strongly protested at our not announcing the correct places which have been hit by their bombs.

Recently, the enemy has invested heavily in methods of gathering vital information by different means. One of its methods is to spread rumors, making use of counterrevolutionary elements in weakening people's trust in the Iranian mass media, and misusing the foreign mass media. Nevertheless, in view of our responsibility toward the public, we feel it our duty to explain to them that the reason why the places which have been hit by the bombs are not revealed or if the people receive the news with some delay is in their own interest. Later, they will naturally receive all the news.

## Reportage, Comment on Iraqi Attacks, Retaliation

### 2 Die in Iraqi Raids

*LD131020 Tehran IRNA in English 1012 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA — One civilian was martyred and 15 others injured when Iraqi war planes bombed the city of Pol-e Zahab, in Bakhtaran Province, at 09:00 hours local time (05:30 GMT) Thursday. Meanwhile, Iraqi planes bombed the city of Karand, in Bakhtaran, Thursday morning, martyring one civilian and injuring five others.

In another development, Iraqi air raids on Khorramabad and Dow Rud, in Lorestan Province, as well as on Esfahan, in Esfahan Province, were repelled by the anti-aircraft artillery before the planes could carry out any mission.

### Iraqi Installations Attacked

*LD131041 Tehran IRNA in English 1028 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 13, IRNA — The Islamic combatants of Iran destroyed seven individual and group bunkers, four observation posts, and an artillery piece belonging to the Iraqi enemy and killed 32 of its forces in western warfronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam over the past twenty four hours. The Iranian forces, while holding upper hand in Naft-e Shah, Sumar and Kani-Sheykh fronts, dealt destructive blows on the Iraqi forces during the same period.

Meanwhile, installations in the cities of Khanaqin, Mandali, Naft Khanih, Dhu Shaykh, Zurbatiyah, Badrah, and Warmahraz were under heavy artillery fire of the Islamic combatants in the past twenty four hours.

### Headquarters on 'Fakkeh Axis' Gains

*LD131053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' base, the headquarters of the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guard Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, announced the following: During some operations penetrating enemy positions in Fakkeh axis, the fighters of Islam succeeded in killing and wounding tens of the Ba'this forces. As the result of these operations a number of vehicles, five slit-trenches, and one supply depot of the enemy forces were destroyed by the forces of Islam.

### Further Details

*LD131356 Tehran IRNA in English 1341 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA — Iran's Islamic combatants infiltrated Iraqi positions in the southern war front Wednesday night [12 June] and inflicted heavy casualties on enemy troops before returning to their bases, announced the Khatam ol-Anbiya operational headquarters of the Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps. The attack started at 23:30 (20:00 GMT) in the Fakkeh axis northwest of the southern city of Ahvaz. A similar operation, code named Zafar-2, was carried out this week when Muslim combatants crossed the Arvand River and inflicted fatal blows on the enemy before returning to base. The headquarters quoted early reports as saying that 50 Iraqi troops were killed and wounded and one of their ammunition depots was set ablaze.

An IRNA correspondent on the front line reported that the depot was a target of the attack, and was still burning at 0900 hours (0530 GMT) Thursday morning. He said Iraqi helicopters were spotted air-lifting the wounded out of the battle scene. Throughout the operation, Iranian artillery halted all Iraqi reinforcements by keeping supply routes to the region under constant shelling, he said.

### Two Killed in Bakhtaran

*LD131325 Tehran IRNA in English 1314 GMT 13 Jun 85*

["Two Martyred in Bakhtaran Bombardment" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 13 IRNA — Two people were martyred and a number of others wounded here as Iraqi planes bombarded one residential quarter at 11:32 hours local time (08:02 GMT) Thursday [13 June]. Two people were rescued from under the rubble one hour after the Iraqi attack. Two residential units were totally razed and five others were partly damaged.

### Joint Staff Issues Communique

*LD131757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] According to a report of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces, its armed forces' powerful artillery units, in retaliation for the ba'thist mercenaries' attacks

on our Islamic homeland's residential areas, opened intense fire on military targets and economic and industrial installations of the cities of Halabjah, Sayyid Sadiq, Khurmal, (Snuwdari), (Shu'artah), Qal'at Dizah, Shuman, Qasr, (Kalalah), (Wilash), (Surian), Maydan, Khanaqin, Dhu Shaykh, Mandali, Naft Khanih, Badrah, Zurbatiyah, Warmahraz, Basra, Abu al-Khasib, and Al-Zubayr and inflicted considerable losses and damage upon the enemy during the past 24 hours as a result.

In its communique, while honoring the international Jerusalem Day and declaring its readiness for defense until final victory, the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces has stressed that the way to Jerusalem goes through Karbala and has given parts of the report of Islam's mighty warriors' battle on the battlefronts of the imposed war as follows:

Artillery exchanges continued in the Wa al-Fajr II operational theater, Sar Dasht, Marivan, and Hajj 'Umran.

The enemy's fire was more intense on the (?Nur-e Zolkan), Boluk, and Dupaza bases. Thanks to Islam's warriors' accurate fire, the enemy suffered some losses and casualties. The mercenary enemy opened long-range artillery fire on Sar Dasht but the enemy artillery fire was silenced thanks to our forces' retaliatory fire.

A joint combat-patrol group from the special forces and other elements were dispatched to a region in the vicinity of Mirgah Sur. This group succeeded in destroying an enemy brigade's headquarters, killkng 14 troops and wounding 11 others, and destroying 6 group bunkers, a vehicle, and 2 enemy machineguns. Another combat patrol group, backed by our artillery unit's full and effective coordinated fire, penetrated deep inside Iraqi territory in the Kut region, southeast of Khurmal, and succeeded in destroying several enemy artillery emplacements, one 130mm gun, and a bulldozer, and destroyed more than 60 percent of three artillery guns.

During the past 24 hours, exchanges of artillery and mortar fire continued along the entire western front; it was more intense in the Naft-e Shah region. Exchanges of fire also continued on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts during the past 24 hours. As a result of the enemy's fire, several residential houses were damaged and there were fires in several places.

The resistant city of Bakhtaran was attacked by enemy planes at 1130 this morning, and as a result 5 people were martyred, 40 were wounded, 5 residential units were demolished, and 15 other residential units were damaged.

The township of Eyvand, near Ilam, was attacked by enemy planes at 0855 and as a result two people were martyred, five others were wounded, and two residential units were damaged. Enemy planes violated the airspace of the cities of Dow Rud, Karand, Khorramshahr, Tafresh, Qazvin, Khomeyn and Marivan during the past 24 hours, but their attacks did not cause any damage or losses. At 2350 on 12 June, two intruding planes violated Tehran's airspace and dropped bombs. As a result, 5 people were martyred and 30 other compatriots were wounded. Some residential districts were also damaged.

**70 Killed in Bakhtaran Bombardment**

*LD131758 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Bakhtaran June 13 IRNA — Casualties of today's Iraqi bombardment of Bakhtaran reached 45 including five martyred. Meanwhile, a number of villages in Bakhtaran Province were also bombarded by Iraqi planes Thursday as a result of which a total of 25 people attained martyrdom.

**Iraq Violates Dezful Air Space**

*LD131829 Tehran IRNA in English 1758 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov. June 13 IRNA — Iraqi planes violated the airspace over Dezful at 1135 hours (0805 GMT) today but were repelled by heavy anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic combatants of Iran. When fleeing the intruding enemy aircraft fired their rockets which caused no casualties or material damages.

**Iraqi Plane Over Tehran**

*LD140552 Tehran IRNA in English 0550 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — An intruding Iraqi plane violated the airspace over Tehran at 7:30 local time (4:00 GMT) Friday. Flying at a high altitude, the Iraqi plane was faced with defensive tactics of the Iranian forces and dropped two bombs which hit non-residential areas causing no casualties or damage.

The attack took place when the people were preparing themselves to participate in the universal Qods Day's demonstrations. The last Friday of the holy month of Ramadan has been announced as the international Qods Day by Imam Khomeyni, in solidarity with the Palestinian people. On this day millions of Muslims throughout the world hold ceremonies to honor the day and declare allegiance with the Palestinian people who have been under Zionists' oppression for years.

**38 killed, 175 Hurt in Cities**

*LD140848 Tehran IRNA in English 0841 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov. June 14, IRNA — The cities of Dezful, Andimeshk, Ramhormuz and Masjed-e Soleymon in Khuzestan Prov. were hit by Iraqi missiles Friday morning [14 June]. At least 38 people were martyred and some 175 others injured in these cities as a result of the missile attacks until 1100 hours (0730 GMT).

Andimeshk: 26 martyred, 100 wounded;
Masjed-e Soleyman: 12 martyred, 60 wounded;
Ramhormuz: 10 wounded;
Dezful: 5 wounded.

A number of residential areas and shops were also damaged in these attacks.

### No Casualties During Tehran Prayers

*LD140858 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Tehran June 14 IRNA — A lone Iraqi plane violated the airspace over the Iranian capital at 1107 hours (0737 GMT) today for a second time in less than four hours. This happened at a time that a massive crowd of Tehrani Muslims were listening to Friday prayers sermons delivered by Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The defensive tactics of the Iranian jet fighters forced the intruding enemy plane to flee. The bombs dropped by the enemy planes hit non-residential areas and caused no casualties or damages.

### Iraqi Missiles Hit Three Towns

*LD140913 Tehran IRNA in English 0907 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Iraq fired two long range missiles simultaneously on Bakhtaran and Islamabad-e Gharb at 08:05 local time (4:35 gmt) Friday. In Bakhtaran a number of commercial and residential units were damaged and the glasses of other units within a radius of one kilometer were broken. Reports on casualties were not immediately available. Relief teams rushed to the areas to aid the victims.

Intruding Iraqi planes had also violated the airspace over both cities four times before the missiles hit. They broke the sound barrier in two instances.

Meanwhile a residential area in Khorramad was hit by an Iraqi missile at 08:05 local time (04:35 GMT) Friday. Eight persons were injured and the glasses of residential units near the area were broken.

People of these cities, however continued their demonstrations on the occasion of the Qods [Jerusalem] Day, chanting "War, war till victory" slogans.

### Cities Hit by Iraqi Attacks

*LD140943 Tehran IRNA in English 0937 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Tehran, June 14 IRNA — A number of Iranian cities were air-raided by Iraqi planes Friday morning when the Muslim people were taking part in massive marches on the occasion of the International Day of Qods [Jerusalem] and the "War vs. Iraqi Aggression" day. These cowardly enemy attempts did not at all affect the iron will and strong determination of the Iranian nation and they continued their rallies with shouts of "War, war, till victory".

The list of the cities attacked by Iraqi planes are as follows:

Qazvin, rockets hit non-residential areas. Possible casualties or damages not immediately known.

Esfahan, twice, in first attack rockets hit non-residential areas. Second attack repelled. No casualties or damages reported.

Kashan, twice, first attack repelled, two rockets fired in second attack. No casualties or damages.

Hamadan, repelled, sound barrier broken.

Zanjan, repelled, sound barrier broken.

Khorramabad, twice, both repelled, sound barrier broken.

### Retaliatory Attacks Against Iraq

*LD141145 Tehran IRNA in English 1137 GMT 14 Jun 85*

[Text] Bakhtaran, Bakhtaran Prov. June 14, IRNA — In retaliation for Iraqi missile and aerial attacks on Iranian residential areas, the artillery units of the Islamic forces continued to pound the Iraqi cities of Khanaqin, Mandali, Naft-Khanih, Dhu Shaykh, Badrah and Zurbatiyah as well as Warmahraz during the past 24 hours inflicting damages on their military, industrial and economic installations.

Exchange of fire continued in the Bakhtaran and Ilam fronts during the said period. Islamic forces destroyed 10 individual and group bunkers, three observation posts and damaged one artillery piece and one mortar launcher, killing and wounding scores of Ba'thist troops. Also during the past 24 hours, Islamic Forces halted the operation of two patrol units in Kharatha and Halalah regions killing 6 Iraqi soldiers.

### Radio Iran Reports Results of Strike

*GF131920 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Jun 85*

[Summary] The bazaar today responded positively to a call for toppling the regime made by Dr Shapur Bakhtiar and proved that it continues to support the Iranian people. All shops in Tehran's bazaar were closed today. According to Radio Iran's correspondent, the regime tried its best to reopen the bazaar and rushed revolution guards to it who broke several shop doors. However, all shopkeepers stood fast and prevented the revolution guards from entering the bazaar. At one point the revolution guards threatened to set fire to the bazaar if the shops were not opened. However, the shopkeepers refused to allow the revolution guards to enter the bazaar and these armed men of the regime retreated.

Today's demonstration in Tehran's bazaar and the general closure proved the backing of the Iranian businessmen for national aspirations. The unity of the businessmen was so strong that even the regime's Hezbollahis mercenary shopkeepers dared not open their shops. The bazaar is the pulse of the city's life. It proved that it can paralyze the city's economy.

In face of the call for a general strike made by the headquarters of the resistance movement to topple the regime, which was announced yesterday at very short notice, the Islamic Republic's regime was caught off guard and very nervous. The regime's official radio several times announced that the workers' holidays had been canceled on Thursday and asked them to go to work on this day. According to reports received, this reaction by the government, aimed at intimidating government workers, only resulted in showing the regime's fear of a general strike, and did little else.

Today, official telephones were unattended. Officials failed to answer calls from the public. Telephones at the Prime Ministry were not answered and telephone numbers 61637 and 61341 at the presidential palace were not answered. Our correspondent adds that the lack of communications proves the positive response given by even the most sensitive workers in the regime to the call by the headquarters to topple the regime set up by the national resistance movement.

Nationalists' reports from civil aviation centers indicate that in response to the resistance headquarters' call, many aviation company workers did not go to work today and civil aviation was paralyzed. The National Iranian Oil Company was in a similar situation as the majority of its workers failed to appear at work.

Although the Iranian people were given short notice about this national movement, Iranian cities remained on holiday and government offices were paralyzed. Tens of thousands of government workers gave a positive response to the call by the national resistance movement's headquarters for toppling the regime and did not attend work.

One of our correspondents reporting from the Law Ministry, the records offices, and the Ministry of Industries reported that the government offices were practically closed today and no work was done. He reports that postal workers refused to sell him stamps and asked him to buy stamps on Saturday, as today was a public holiday.

Many shops and stores which had not yet heard about the call by the resistance movement to strike closed their shops and went home as soon as they were informed of the call. The work stoppage today was a good reaction to the call by the national resistance movement's headquarters for a general strike.

One official of the movement's headquarters called today's strike successful and said that the people played a great role in making the general strike a success. He said that today proved that officials, businessmen, and professionals, despite all criminal intimidation by the Islamic Republic's regime, proved their readiness to paralyze the regime completely.

According to reports no taxis were seen operating in southern Tehran and very few buses were running. Nationalist elements in Tehran reported that few private cars were seen on the streets today. The atmosphere in the city was like that of a public holiday. With the exception of a few taxis belonging to the local transport company, few other cars were on the streets. Pahlevi Street, 'Abbasabad Street and (Takht-e Taus) Street were empty of vehicles as most people had left Tehran in great numbers today. Tehran traffic, which is heaviest on Thursday, was very light today and most streets were empty.

Another report says that telephone calls to the tobacco company were not answered, thus showing that its workers participated in the general strike.